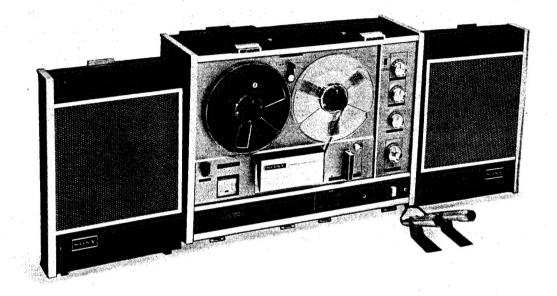
TG-540



Specifications

Power Requirements:	AC 50/60 Hz, 100, 110, 117, 125, 220,		Maximum Sensitivity, -20 dBs (0.078 V)
•	& 240 V, 65W		Rec./P.B. Connector(1)
Reel Size:	7 inches or smaller		Impedance $10k\Omega$
Tape Speeds:	71/2 ips, 31/4 ips, 11/8 ips (19 cm/s,		Maximum Sensitivity -40 dBs (7.8 mV)
	9.5 cm/s, 4.8 cm/s)	Outputs:	Line Outputs(2)
Frequency Response:	30~20,000 Hz at 71/2 ips (19 cm/s)		Impedance 100 k Ω
	30~13,000 Hz at 3¾ ips (9.5 cm/s)		Output Level O dBs (0.775 V)
	30~10,000 Hz at 1% ips (4.8 cm/s)		External Speaker Outputs(2)
Flutter and Wow:			impedance 8Ω
	Less than 0.12% at 3¾ ips (9.5 cm/s)		Output Level 11.2 dBs (2.83 V)
	Less than 0.16% at 17% ips (4.8 cm/s)		Headphone Outputs(2)
Signal-to-Noise Ratio:			Impedance 8 kΩ
Harmonic Distortion:			Output Level 11.2 dBs (2.83 V)
	4-Track stereophonic		Rec./P.B. Connector(1)
(with 1,800 ft tape)	1 hr 30 min at 7½ ips (19 cm/s)		Impedance $10\mathrm{k}\Omega$
(11.61)	3 hrs at 3¾ ips (9.5 cm/s)		Output Level 0 dBs (0.775 V)
	6 hrs at 17% ips (4.8 cm/s)	Power Output:	5 watts Max. per channel
	4-Track monophonic		Music power 20 watts with both channels
	3 hrs at 71/2 ips (19 cm/s)	Speakers:	$4\times8''$ (10×20 cm); Cabinet speaker (2)
	6 hrs at 33/4 ips (9.5 cm/s)		4" (10 cm); Lid speaker(2)
	12 hrs at 1% ips (4.8 cm/s)	Transistors:	24 pcs
Inputs:	101	Diodes:	8 pcs
	Impedance, 600Ω	Dimensions:	19% (W)×9% (H)×15%" (D)
	Maximum Sensitivity, -73 dBs (0.19 mV)		(500×252×391 mm)
	Auxiliary Inputs(2)	Weight:	41 lbs. 10 oz. (19 kg)
	Impedance, 100kΩ	4	CATT
			SONY®
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		(SERVICE MANUAL
			DERVIUE MIAMUAL



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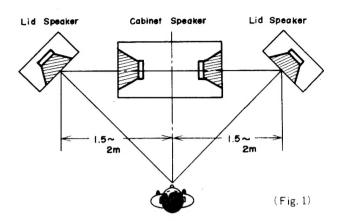
General Description

Model TC-540 is a high-quality, solid state tape recorder designed with the up-to-date engineering techniques of SONY. Its mechanical advantages include the capability of being used in either horizontal or vertical position, 3-speed selector, retractable pinch roller, lids which can be put on even if 7-inch reels are mounted on the turntables, and scrape filter which prevents FM noise. The electrical advantages of this machine are found in 4-speaker system, through-speaker-monitoring system, bass-treble separate tone control, automatic shut-off switch and noise suppressor switch. In addition, Model TC-540 is internally provided with 2-head sound-on-sound circuit which is used for sound-on-sound recording from the left channel to the right channel, and vice versa.

Technical Features

1. SPEAKER SYSTEM

The speaker system of the TC-540 tape recorder consists of cabinet speakers, $4'' \times 8''$ (10 cm \times 20 cm), serving as woofers, and lid speakers, $4'' \times 4''$ (10 cm \times 10 cm), serving as tweeters. The lid speakers are provided with 3-m cords. When the lid speakers are not used, the cabinet speakers are capable of covering the entire audio frequency band in reproduction.



The typical speaker arrangement of TC-540 is as shown in Fig. 1. The cabinet speakers having no directivity contribute much to quality reproduction in the low frequency range. The cross-over frequency of the speakers is 300 Hz to 400 Hz. Introduced hereunder are other two methods of speaker arrangement available for the stereo tape recorder. Reference can be made to these methods to understand how advanced the present TC-540 speaker arrangement is.

METHOD 1 Two lids, each provided with one speaker, are used. The cabinet speakers are not used. In this method, a lid for a woofer must have a larger speaker box. The present lid, however, is limited in speaker box size and, hence, poor-quality reproduction will result in the low frequency range.

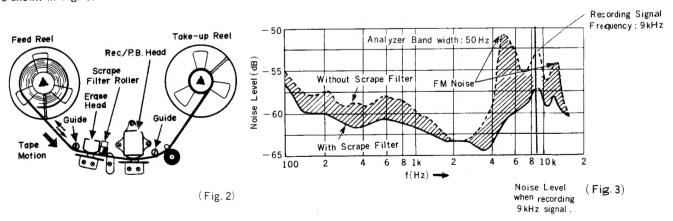
METHOD 2 Two speakers are used, one being installed to the lid and the other to the cabinet. The lid and cabinet, however, differ from each other in speaker box size, resulting in difference in tone quality.

In the TC-540 speaker arrangement, every possible deficiency is corrected. The advantage that small-size lid speakers may be used offers compact and lightweight design of the machine.

2. SCRAPE FILTER

Generally, the tape vibrates longitudinally with its natural frequency when it is transported. Vibration frequency (cps) bears a close relation to the modulus of longitudinal elasticity, specific gravity and span of the tape. Such a vibration is negligible when no signal is recorded. However, if any high-frequency signal is recorded, it is modulated to bring about sidebands similar to tape noise on both sides of the signal frequency. These sidebands are heard as FM noise (something like hiss noise) having a certain level when listening to them carefully. They can be discriminated from tape noise because they are changed in volume when the record signal frequency is shifted.

It has often been reported that an input signal whose frequency is higher than 5 kHz cannot be reproduced with clear sound when it is recorded. This complaint seems to have directed against FM noise due to these sidebands. The scrape filter (roller) is located between the erase head and the record/playback head as shown in Fig. 2. In operation, it decreases the span of the tape and increases vibration frequency 3 or 4 times. When this frequency is increased beyond the audible range, the node of vibration of the tape is brought close to the record/playback head to prevent vibration of the tape. Under such a condition, the sidebands are eliminated and, in turn, FM noise is reduced over nearly entire frequency range as shown in Fig. 3.



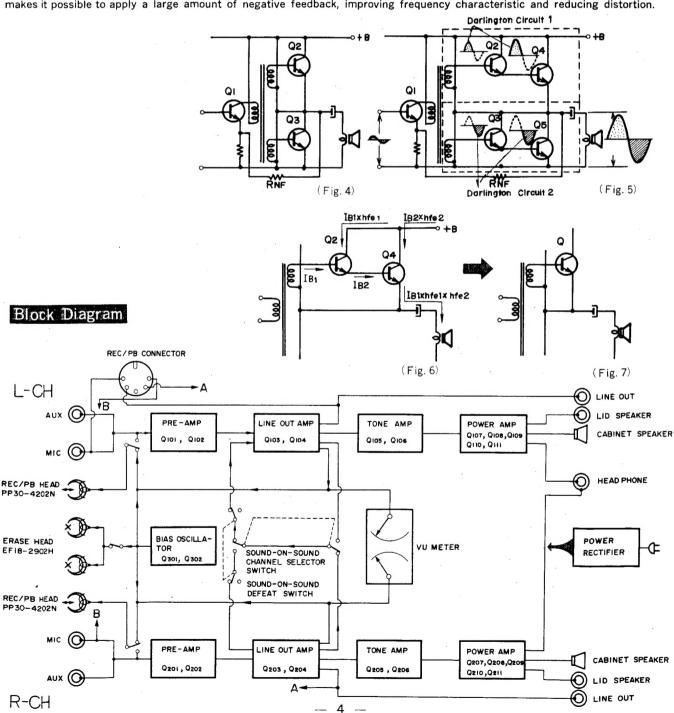


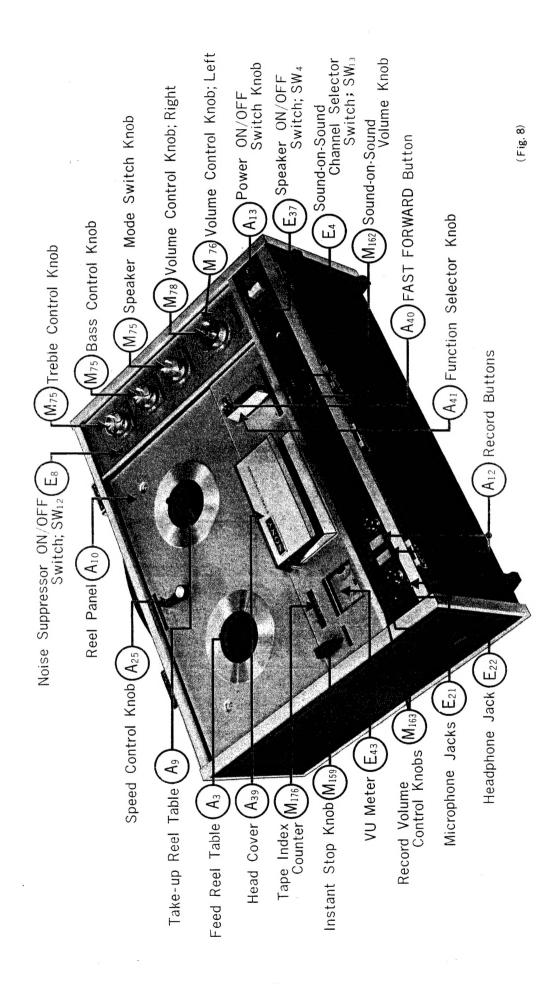
3. POWER AMPLIFIER

The power amplifier of Model TC-540 is designed by modifying the ordinary SEPP OTL circuit (shown in Fig. 4 & 5) and successfully adding Darlington circuits (shown in Fig. 5) thereto. The function of Darlington circuit is as follows:

The details of Darlington circuit are shown in Fig. 6. In this circuit, two NPN type transistors (Q_2 and Q_4) are connected in series with each other. The collector current (emitter current) of Q_2 becomes the base current of Q_4 . The base current (IB1) of Q_2 is amplified at $h_{fe}1$ (the forward-current transfer ratio of Q_2), and flows to Q_4 where it becomes the base current (IB2). This current is again amplified at $h_{fe}2$ (the forward-current transfer ratio of Q_4). The overall forward-current transfer ratio (h_{fe}) is written as $h_{fe} = h_{fe}1 \times h_{fe}2$

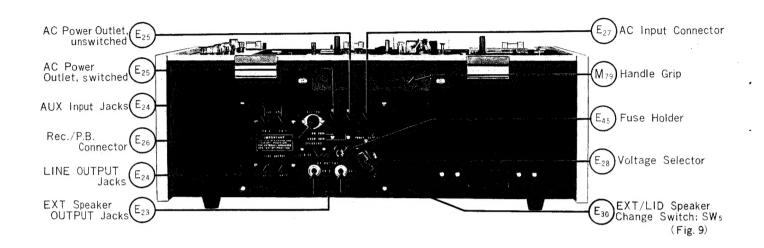
Hence, Darlington circuit is in one sense a transistor in which Q_2 and Q_4 are combined to increase h_{fe} to a great extent (Fig. 7). Darlington circuit shown in Fig. 5 provides the same function. Darlington circuit (1) amplifies the positive half and Darlington circuit (2) the negative half of the cycle, thereby supplying a greatly amplified output to the load (speaker). It can rightly be said, therefore, that the power amplifier provided with such Darlington circuits is capable of employing a more compact driver transformer without getting faulty on the performance characteristics. Such a high gain amplifier makes it possible to apply a large amount of negative feedback, improving frequency characteristic and reducing distortion.



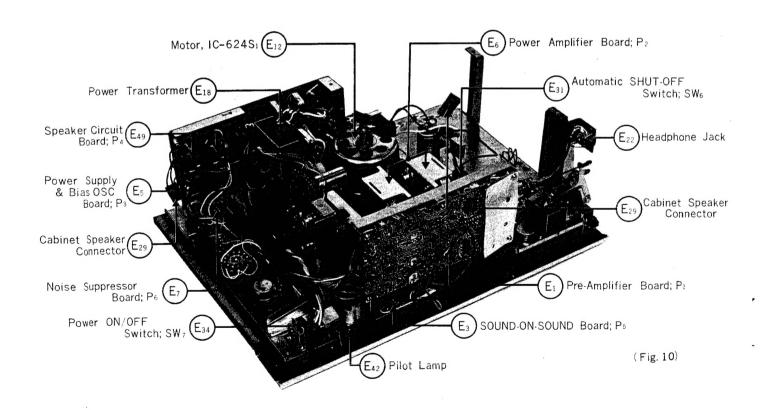




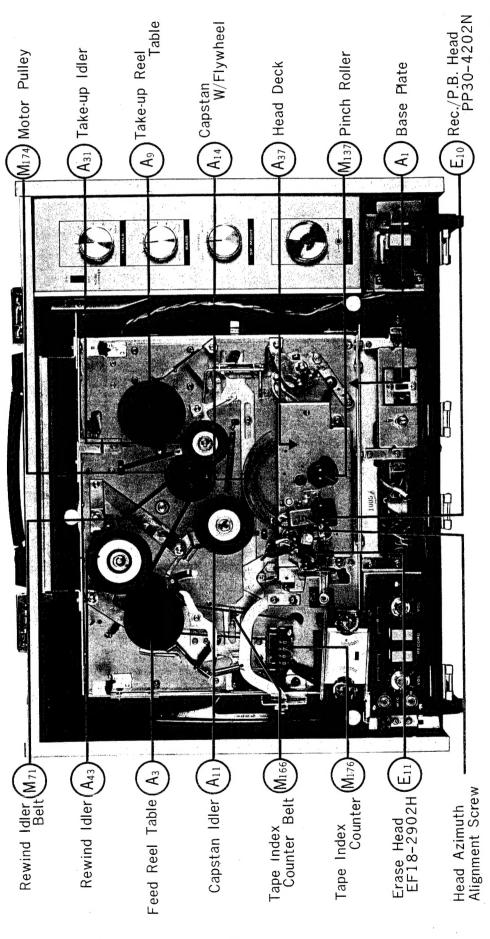
Cabinet Back View



Chassis Bottom View



Chassis Top View





Method of Disassembling the Set

Removal of Knobs and Head Cover Removal of Reel Panel ⊕B3 X 6 Set Screw Reel Panel Washer Head Cover Holder -Head Cover Holder Reel Panel Head Cover ⊕B3 X 6 Function Selector Knob ⊕B2.6 X 10 Reel Panel Speed Selector Knob W2.6 # Instant Stop Knob Set Screw (Fig. 12) (Fig. 13) Removal of Cabinet Removal of Carrying Handle Carrying Handle Retainer Bracket Handle Grip Cabinet ⊕B5 X 25 W5^ø(Small) ⊕RF4 X 15 ⊕RF4 X 15 -4-⊕RF4 X I5 Cabinet Washer Cabinet Washer ⊕RF4 X I5

(Fig. 15)

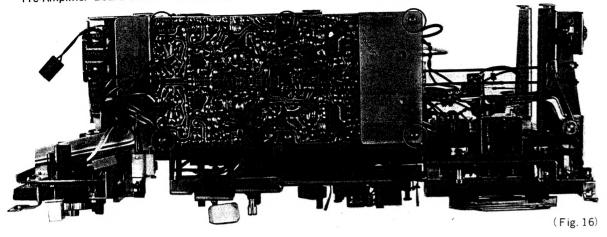
(Fig. 14)

TC-540 TC-540

Removal of Mounted Circuit Boards

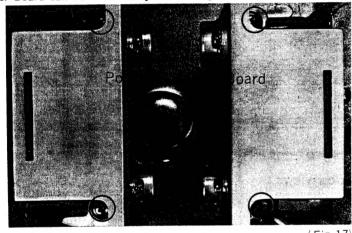
1. Pre-Amplifier Section

Pre-Amplifier Board can be removed by unscrewing the Screws encircled. (Fig. 16)



2. Power Amplifier Section

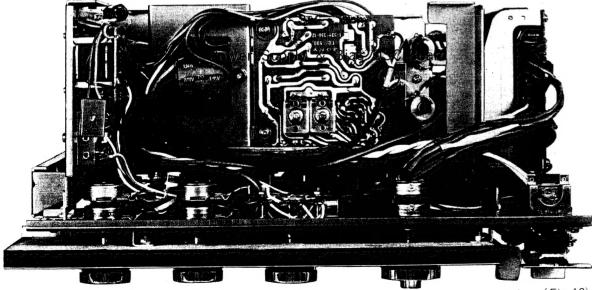
Power Amplifier Board can be removed by unscrewing the Screws encircled. (Fig. 17)



(Fig. 17)

3. Power Supply & Bias OSC Section

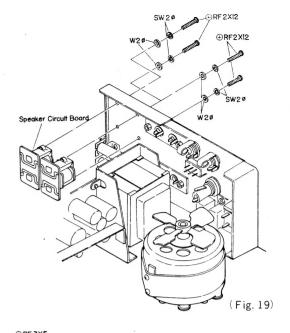
Power Supply & Bias OSC Board can be removed by unscrewing the Screws encircled. (Fig. 18)



(Fig. 18)

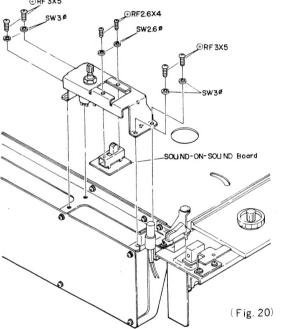
4. Speaker Circuit Section

Speaker Switch Board can be removed by unscrewing the Screws. (Fig. 19)



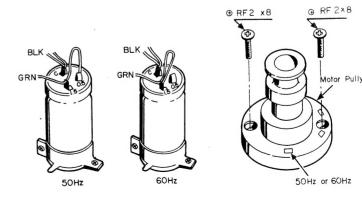
5. SOUND-ON-SOUND Section

SOUND-ON-SOUND Board can be removed by unscrewing the Screws. (Fig. 20)



Modification to Different Household Frequency

	For 50 Hz	For 60 Hz
Connection between terminals of the Metalized Paper Capacitor	Connected $(1.5\mu\text{F}\sim0.5\mu\text{F})$	Disconnected (1.5µF)
2. Motor Pulley Part Number	3-444-064	3-444-063

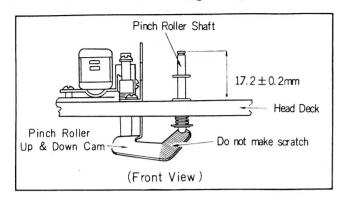


Mechanical Adjustment

TC-540 TC-540

A Pinch

Pinch Roller Shaft Height Adjustment



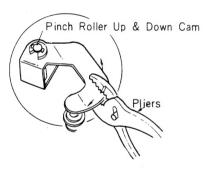
① When adjusting roughly

Adjust by bending with pliers as shown below.

 $\ensuremath{\bigcirc}$ When adjusting accurately

Adjust to obtain 17.2 ± 0.2mm by loosening Screw and moving Shaft up and down.

After fastening Screw, apply Lock Paint.

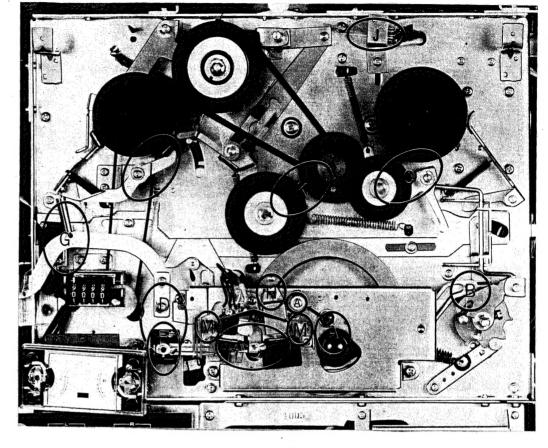


Screw

Pinch Roller Up & Down Cam

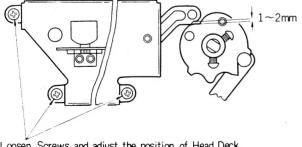
(Bottom View)

(Top View)



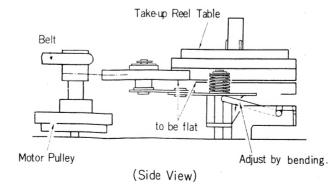
Top View

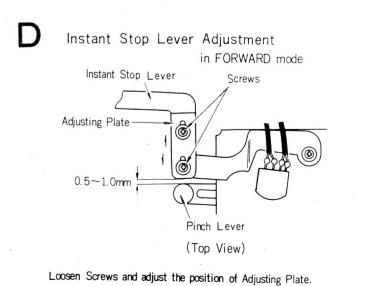
B Head Deck Position Adjustment in FORWARD mode



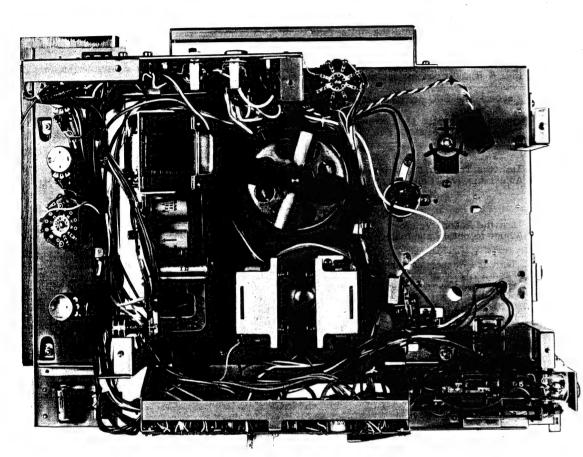
Loosen Screws and adjust the position of Head Deck.
(Top View)

C Take-up Idler Height Adjustment in FAST FORWARD mode





TC-540 TC-540



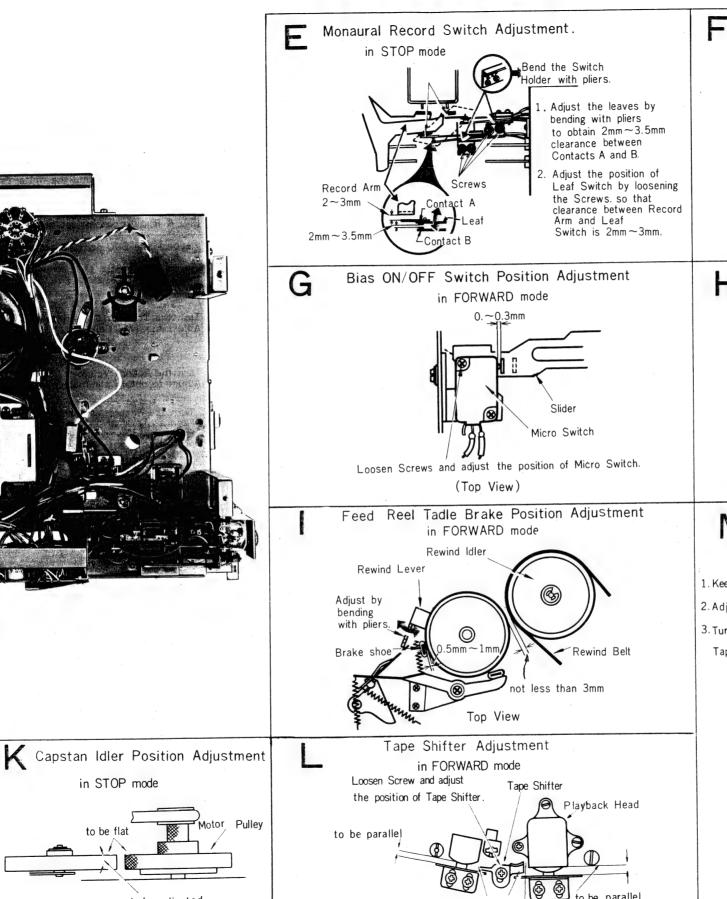
Bottom View

Bias Control Switch Position Adjustment

Loosen the Screw and adjust the position of Leaf Switch Holder at $3\frac{3}{4}$ ips(9.5cm/s) & $7\frac{1}{2}$ ips(19cm/s)speed

Change Level

at 17/sips(4.8cm/s) speed Leaf Switch Holder



(Top View)

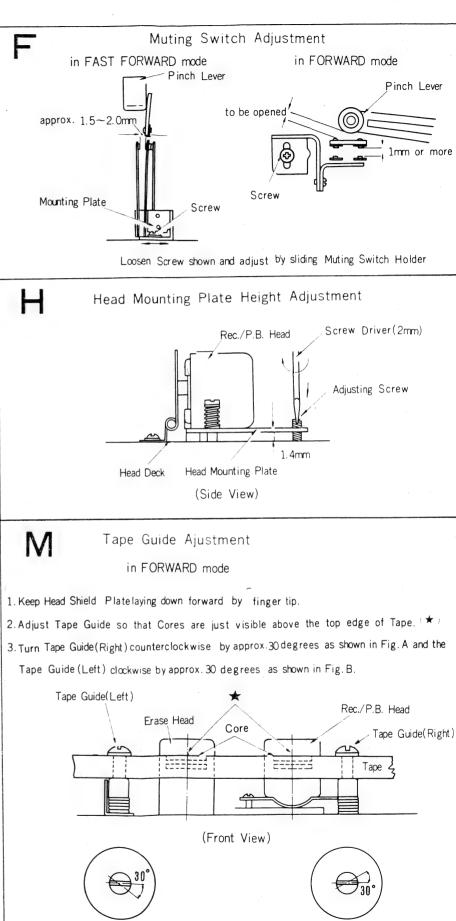


Fig. A

Fig. B

in STOP mode

to be adjusted

(Side View)

Electrical Adjustment

Item	Signal Source	Output Connection	Mode	Adjust	Remarks
Playback Azimuth Alignment	10 kHz 1st section of SONY Alignment Tape, J-19-F ₂	VTVM and $100k\Omega$ Resistor in parallel to LINE OUT	Playback	Azimuth Alignment Screw See Fig. 22	Adjust to obtain maximum reading on VTVM.
2. Playback Level Adjustment	1 kHz 2nd section of SONY Alignment Tape, J-19-F ₂	VTVM and $100k\Omega$ Resistor in parallel to LINE OUT	Playback	L-CH; R ₁₁₉ L-CH; R ₂₁₉ See Fig. 24	Adjust Adjustable Resistors (R ₁₁₉ & R ₂₁₉) to obtain 0 dBs (0.775V) on VTVM.
3. Meter Level Adjustment	1 kHz, -60 dBs (0.78 mV) to MIC IN- PUT	VTVM and $100k\Omega$ Resistor in parallel to LINE OUT	Record	L-CH; R_{140} 5k Ω (B) R-CH; R_{240} 5k Ω (B) See Fig. 24	 Adjust the Record Volumes (R₁₅₇ & R₂₅₇) to obtain +1 dBs (0.89 V) on VTVM. Adjust the Adjustable Resistors (R₁₄₀ & ₂₄₀) so that Level Meters indicate the boundary between the red zone and the white zone.
4. Playback Equalizer Adjustment (1); 7½ ips (19 cm/s)	SONY Alignment Tape, J-19-F ₂	VTVM and $100k\Omega$ Resistor in parallel to LINE OUT	Playback	L-CH; R ₁₁₆ 5kΩ (B) R-CH; R ₂₁₆ 5kΩ (B) See Fig. 24	 Playback 1kHz, 3rd section of Alignment Tape and measure its the response with VTVM. Playback the 12.5kHz, (4th section) of Alignment Tape and adjust the adjustable resistors (R₁₁₆ & R₂₁₆) to obtain just the same response comparing with Step 1.
5. Playback Equalizer Adjust- ment (2); 3¾ ips (9.5 cm/s)	SONY Alignment Tape, J. 9-F ₁	VTVM and $100k\Omega$ Resistor in parallel to LINE OUT	Playback	L-CH; R_{116} 5k Ω (B) R-CH; R_{216} 5k Ω (B) See Fig. 24	 Playback the 500 Hz, (3rd section) of Alignment Tape and measure its the response with VTVM. Playback the 5kHz, (4th section) and the 200 Hz, (6th section) of Alignment Tape and adjust the adjustable resistors (R₁₁₆ & R₂₁₆) to obtain just the same response comparing with Step 1.
6. Trap Coil Adjustment (1)		VTVM across REC/PB Head	Record	L-CH; L ₁₀₃ 20 mH C ₃₀₃ 30~200 P R-CH; L ₂₀₃ 20 mH C ₃₀₄ 30~200 P See Fig. 23	 Turn the Trimmer Capacitors (C₃₀₃ & C₃₀₄) clockwise fully. Adjust the Trap Coils (L₁₀₃ & L₂₀₃) to obtain minimum reading of Bias Voltage Value on VTVM.
7. Trap Coil Adjustment (2)		VTVM and $100 \text{k}\Omega$ Resistor in parallel to LINE OUT	Record	L-CH; L ₁₀₁ 200 <i>μ</i> H R-CH; L ₂₀₁ 200 <i>μ</i> H See Fig. 24	 Turn the Record Volumes (R₁₅₇ & R₂₅₇) clockwise fully. Adjust to obtain minimum reading on VTVM.
8. Recording Bias Adjustment	1 kHz, -72 dBs (0.196 mV) to MIC INPUT	VTVM and $100 \text{k}\Omega$ Resistor in parallel to LINE OUT	Playback & Record	L-CH; C ₃₀₃ 30~200 P R-CH; C ₃₀₄ 30~200 P See Fig. 23	 Turn the Record Volumes (R₁₅₇ & R₂₅₇) clockwise fully. Feed a Signal of 1kHz, -72 dBs (0.196 mV) to MIC Input. For Bias Adjustment, it is recommendable to use another tape recorder besides TC-540. Make the height of their reel panels even and thread a blank tape. (See Fig. 21) Connect a VTVM and 100kΩ resistor in parallel to LINE OUT of the other tape recorder. Set TC-540 in RECORD mode and the other in PLAYBACK mode. Set both machines to 7½ ips (19 cm/s) or 3½ ips (9.5 cm/s). Turn the trimmer capacitors fully counter-clockwise. Turn the trimmer capacitors clockwise slowly. The VTVM reading will go up, reaching maximum and then falling again. Continue to turn the trimmer capacitor until the VTVM reads 0.5 dB below from the maximum value.

NOTES:

(1) The Adjustments should be made in numerical order.

(2) The Adjustments should be performed in the tape speed of 19 cm/sec. (7½ ips), unless otherwise specified.

(3) After adjustments, apply Lock Paint to the adjusted parts.

(4) The following test equipment is to be provided for these adjustments.

Audio Generator

Attenuator (600 ohms)

V. T. V. M.

100K ohm Resistor

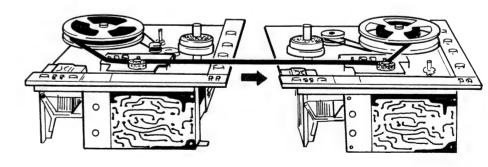
SONY Alignment Tapes: J-19-F₂ & J-9-F₁

lank Tape

(5) Bias Voltage across Heads measured with V.T.V.M. shall be:

Rec./P.B. Head: Approx. 40 volts

Erase Head: Approx. 80 volts

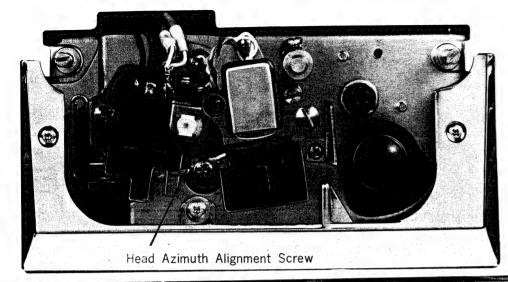


(Fig. 21)

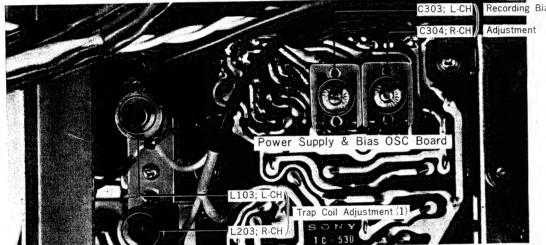
TC-540

Other Tape Recorder

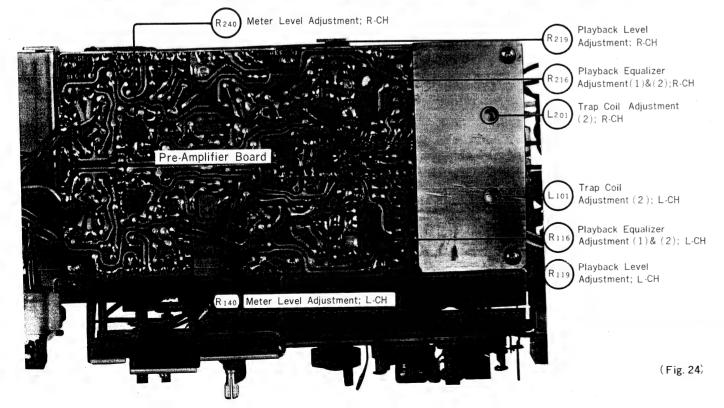
TC-540 TC-540

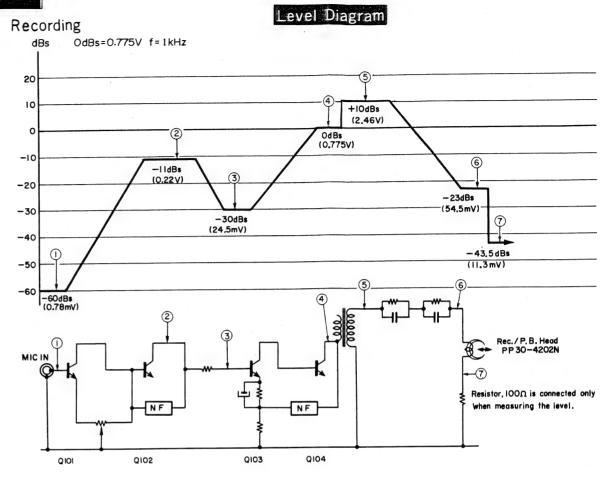


(Fig. 22)

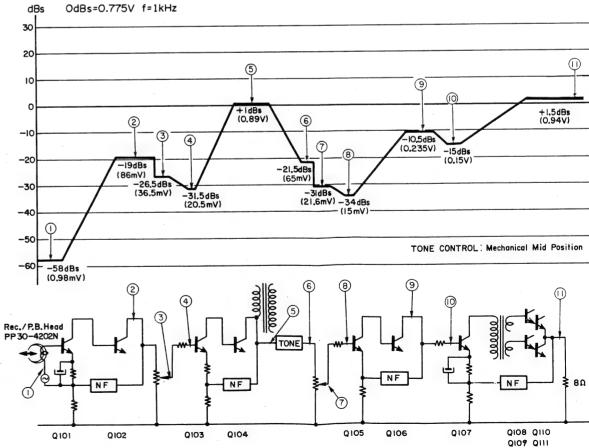


(Fig. 23)



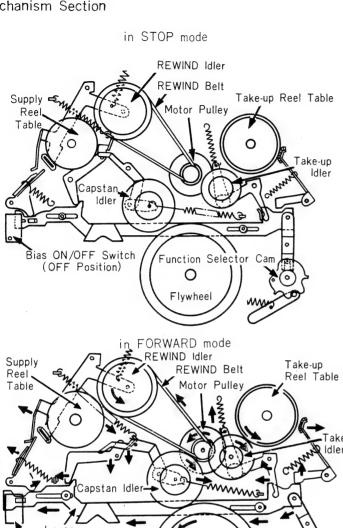


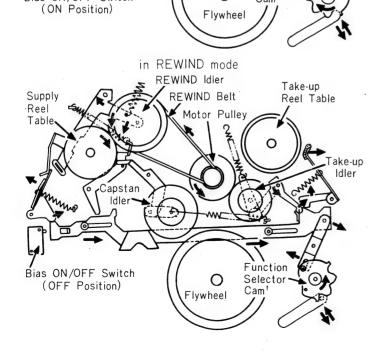




Functions of Mechanism

Tape Transport Mechanism Section



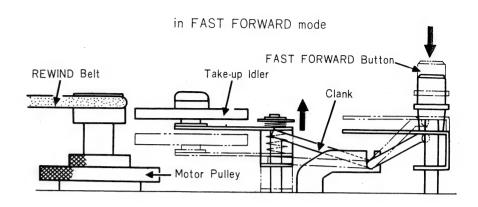


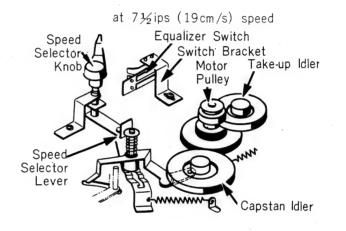
Function Selector

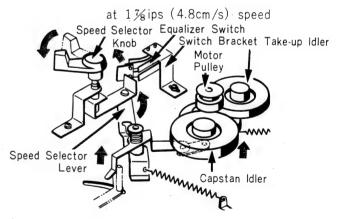
Cam

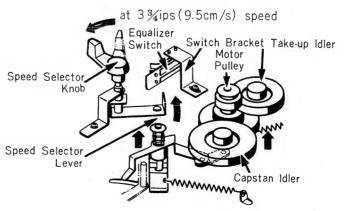
0

Bias ON/OFF Switch

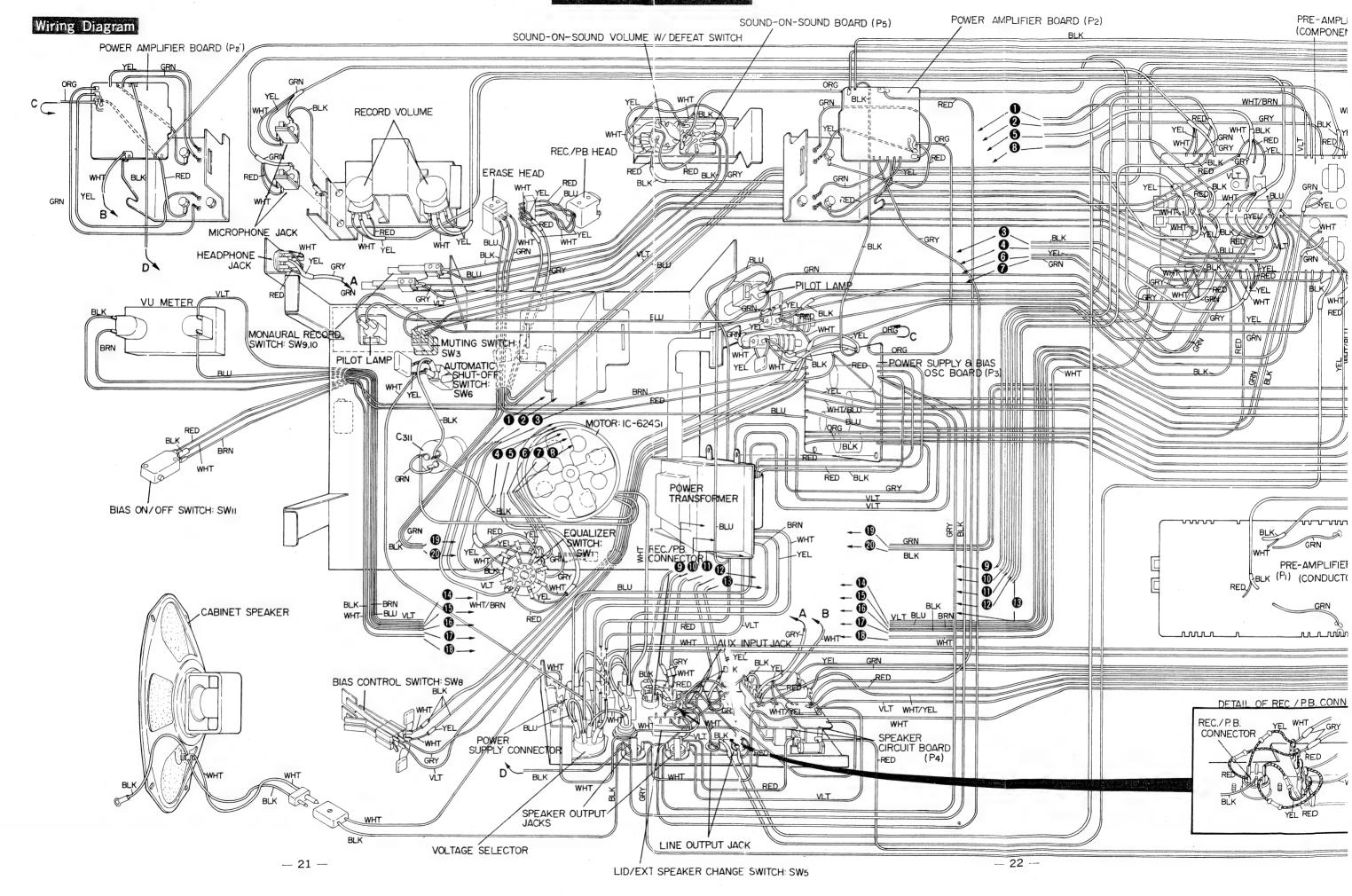


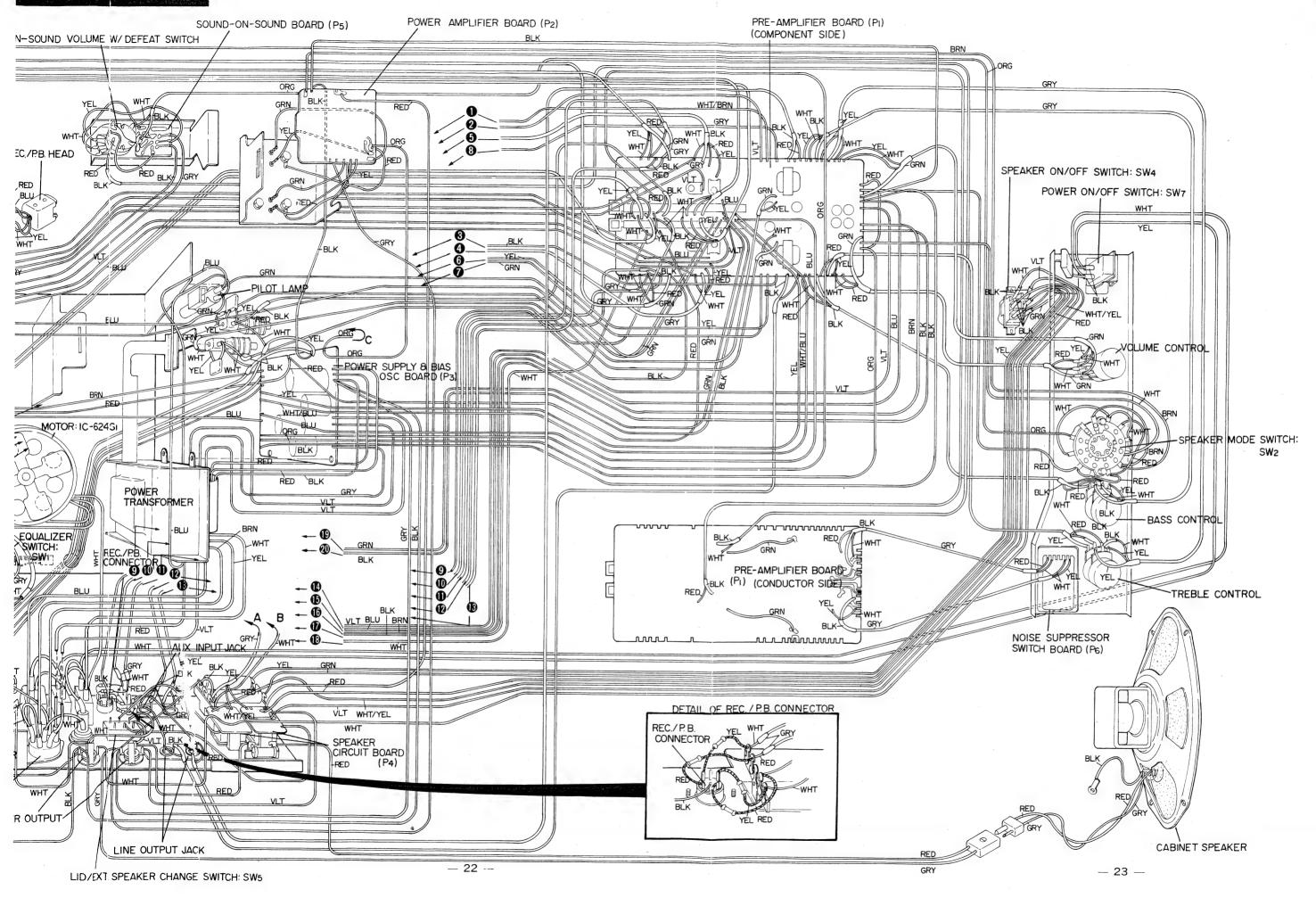






TC-540 TC-540

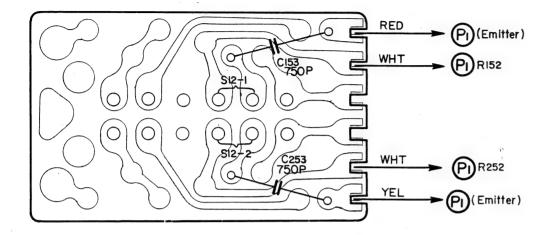




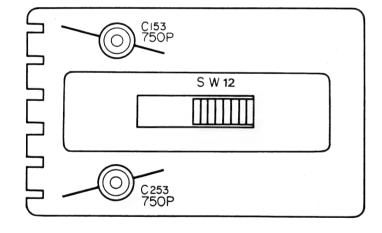


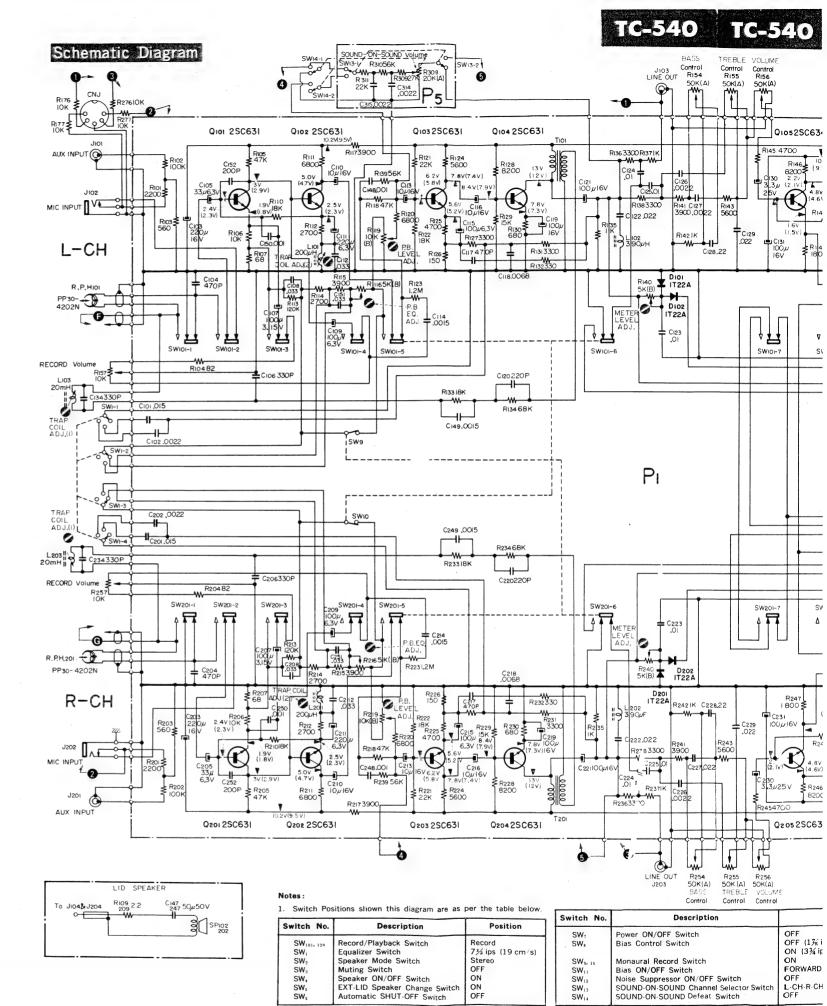
Noise Suppress Switch Board Section

Conductor Side



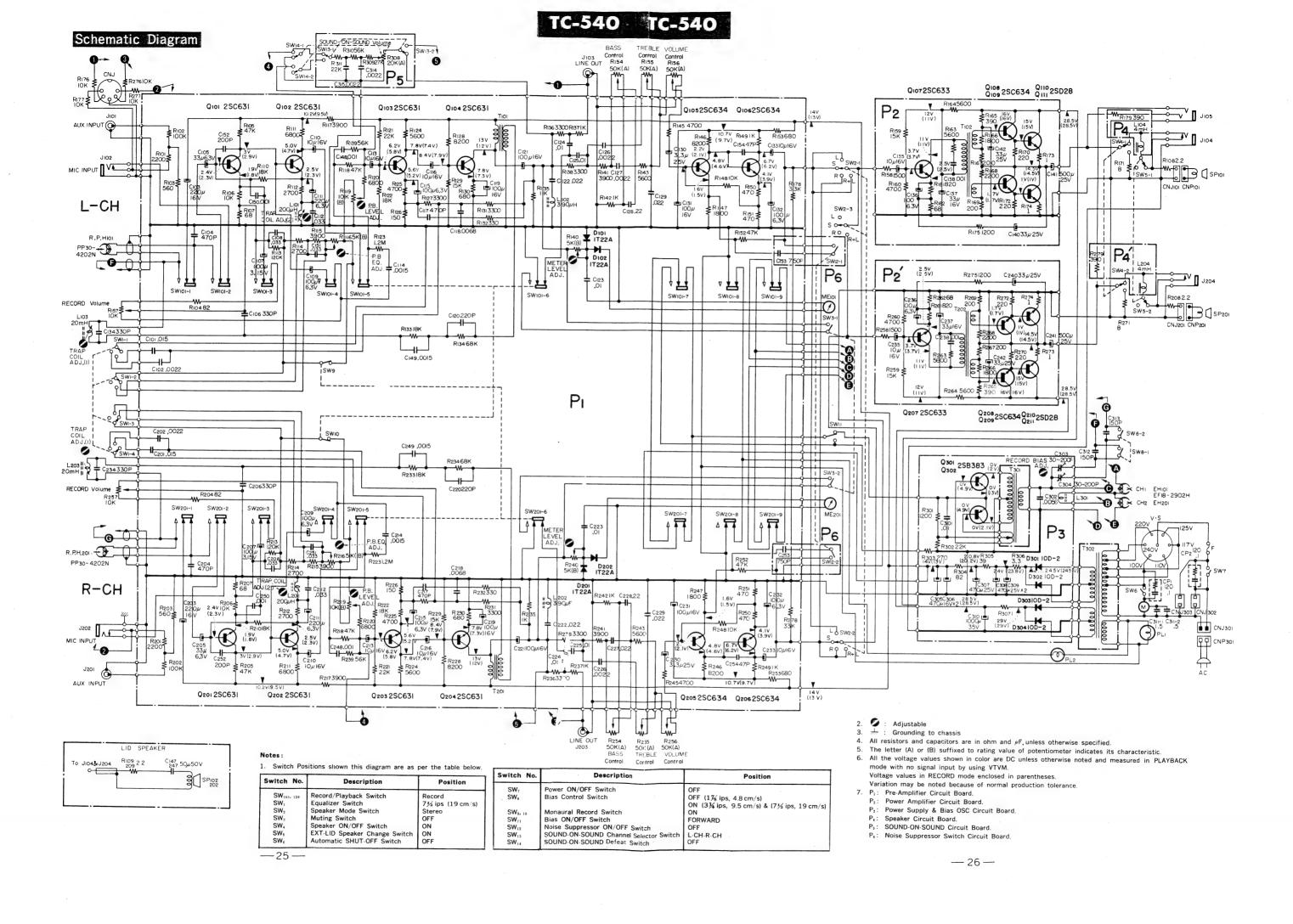
Component Side -





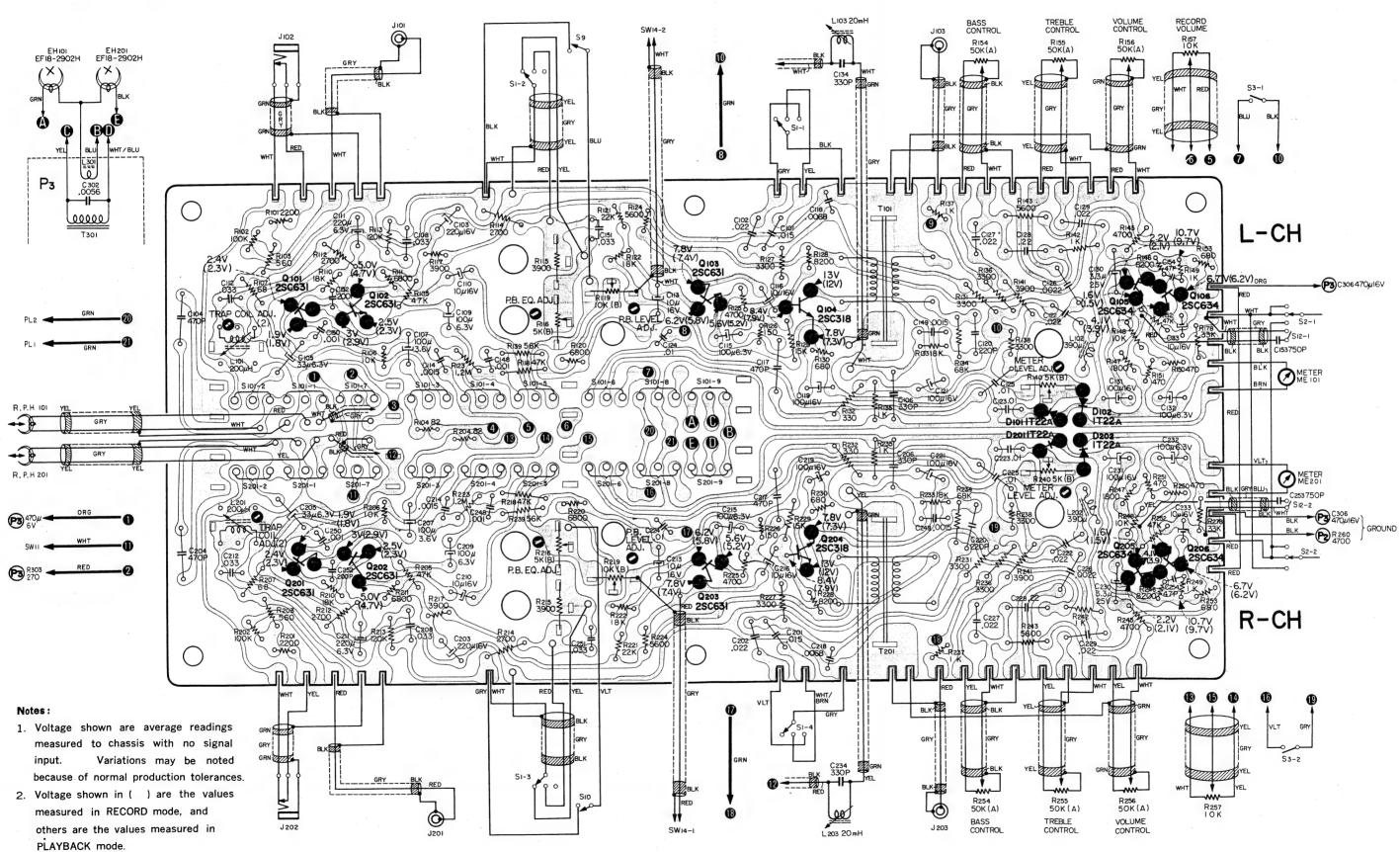
<u>---25</u> ---

--- 24 ---



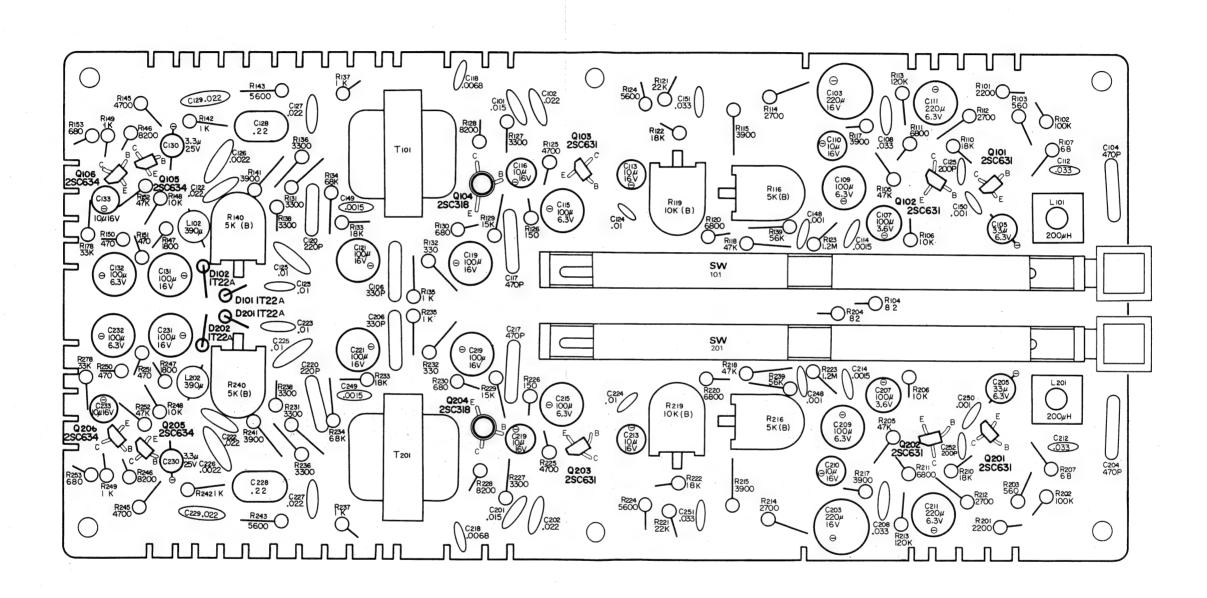
Pre-Amplifier Board Section P1

- Conductor Side -



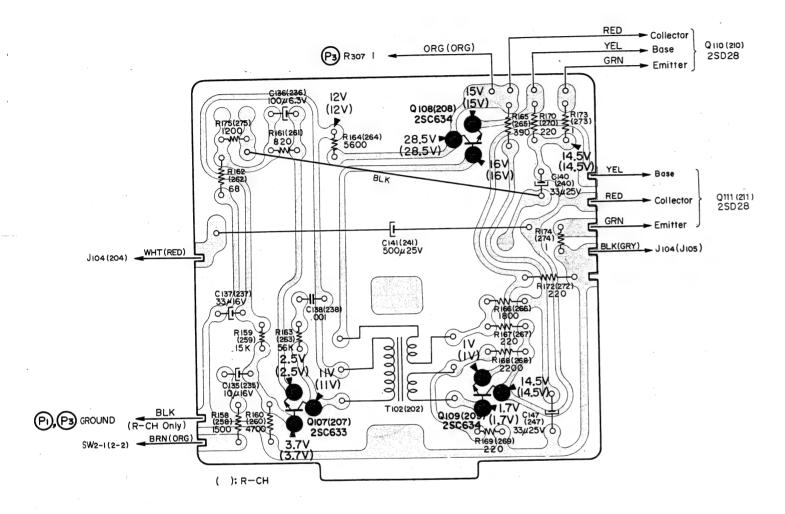
Pre-Amplifier Board Section P1

- Component Side -



Power Amplifier Board Section P2

- Conductor Side -

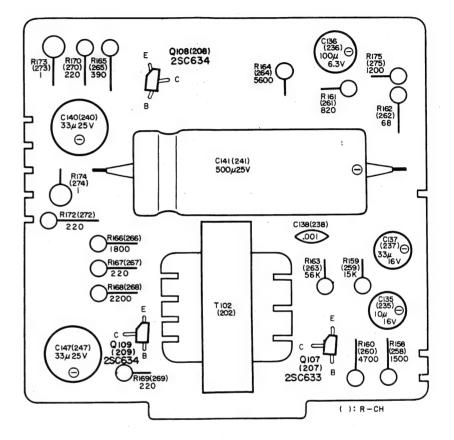


Notes:

- 1. Voltages shown are average readings measured to chassis with no signal input. Variations may be noted because of normal production tolerances.
- 2. Voltage shown in () are the values measured in RECORD mode, and others are the values measured in PLAYBACK mode.

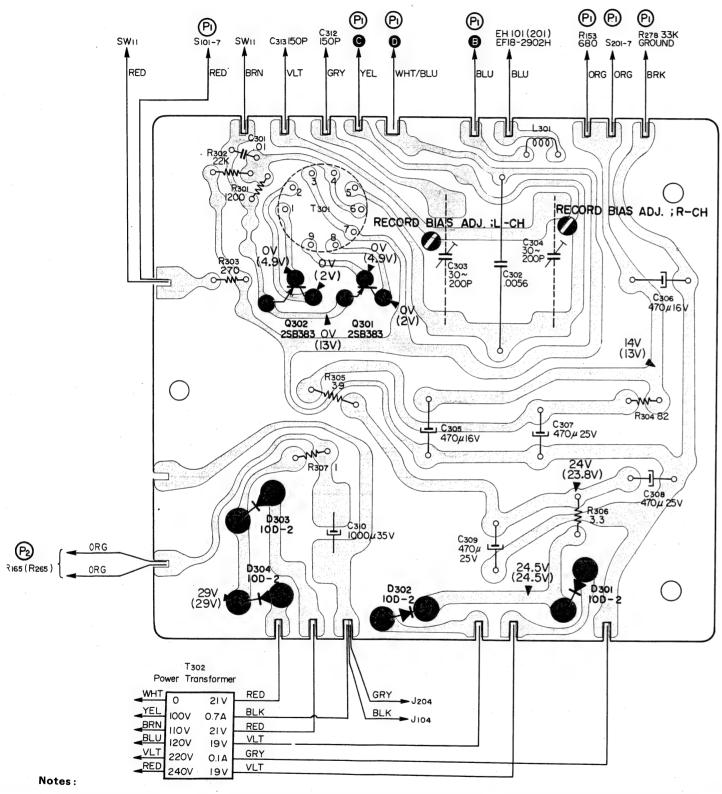
Mounting Diagram

Power Amplifier Board Section P₂
— Component Side —



Power Supply & Bias OSC Board Section P3

- Conductor Side -

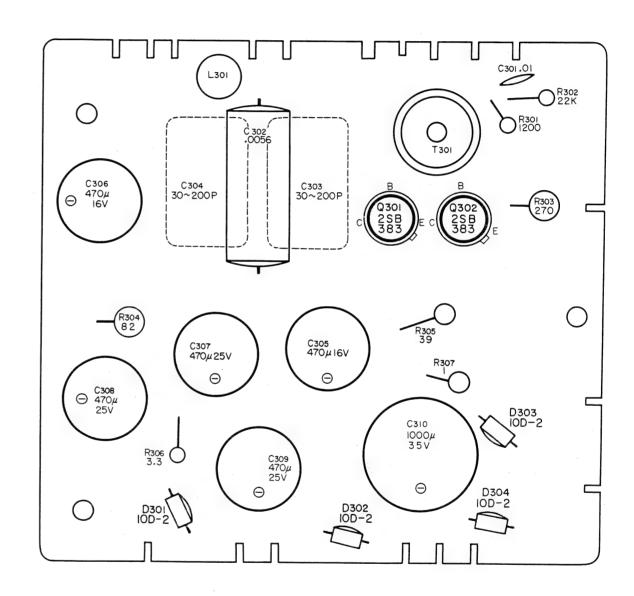


- 1. Voltages shown are average readings measured to chassis with no signal input. Variations may be noted because of normal production tolerances.
- 2. Voltage shown in () are the values measured in RECORD mode, and others are the values measured in PLAYBACK mode.

Mounting Diagram

Power Supply & Bias OSC Board Section $\ensuremath{P_{\scriptscriptstyle 3}}$

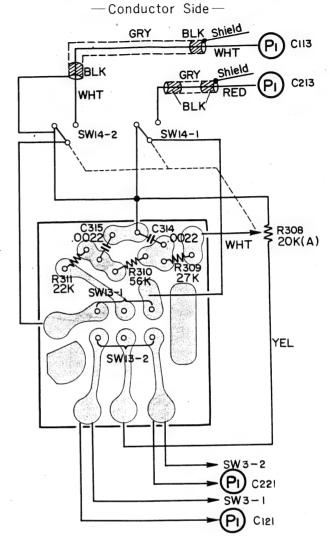
- Component Side -



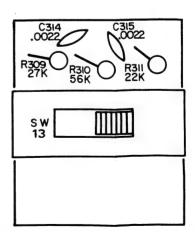
Speaker Circuit Board Section P. - Conductor Side-WHT SW5-I (SW5-2) ▼ RED 0000 L104 000 (L204) JWHT → J104, SW4-1 (J204, SW4-2) VLT R179 390 (R279 390) 0 W 0 WHT/YEL SW4-1 RED (SW4-2) ← C241 500µ25V C141 500µ25V P2 ();R-CH - Component Side-L104 (L204) R179 390 (R279 390)

Mounting Diagram

SOUND-ON-SOUND Board Section Ps



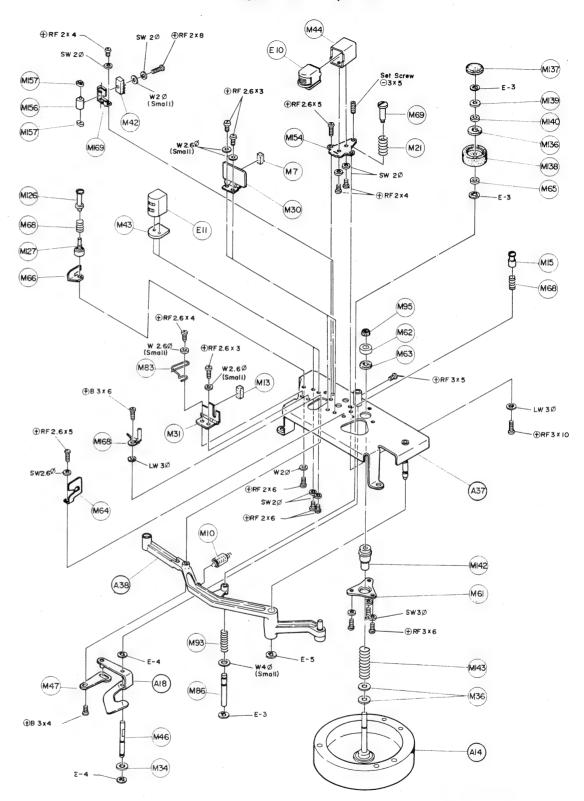
- Component Side -



Tape Transport Mechanism—Top View ⊕RF3x6 SW3Ø ⊕RF3×6 (A27) M33 W3Ø ⊕RF3×I6 ⊕ RF3×6-£33 AI6 ⊕RF3x6 w3ø e (A33) M80 ⊕RF3×6 M176 -W3Ø MI65 ⊕RF3×6 M50 ⊕RF4×6 -⊕RF4×6 ⊕RF3×6 SW3Ø (A22) @ Number encircled shows W: Plain Washer Spring Washer Reference No. which is LW: Lock Washer listed in the Complete Spare **— 37 —** N: Nut Parts List attached hereto. E: Retaining Ring

Exploded Diagram

Head Deck-Top View



W: Plain Washer SW: Spring Washer

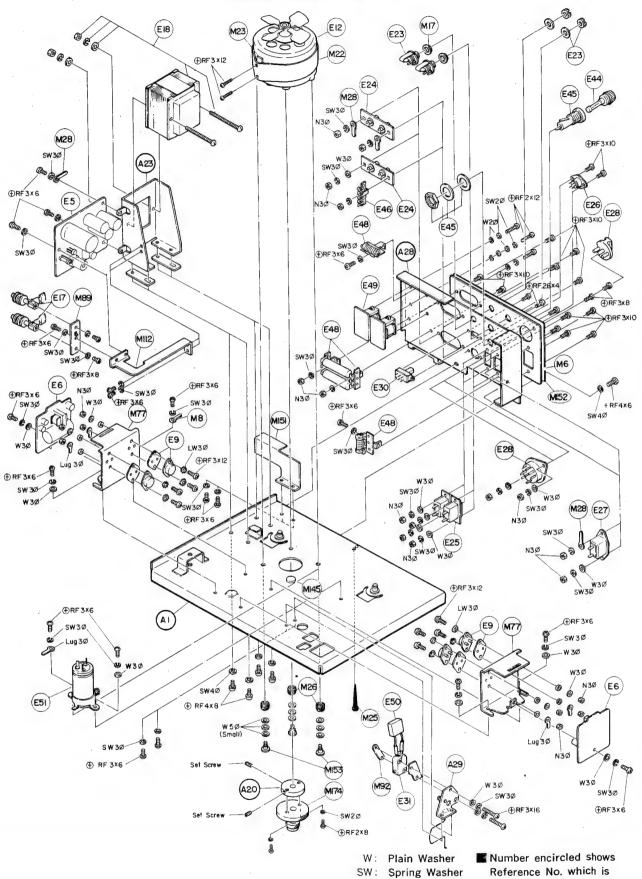
LW: Lock Washer

N: Nut

E: Retaining Ring

Number encircled shows
Reference No. which is
listed in the Complete Spare
Parts List attached hereto.

Chassis-Bottom View

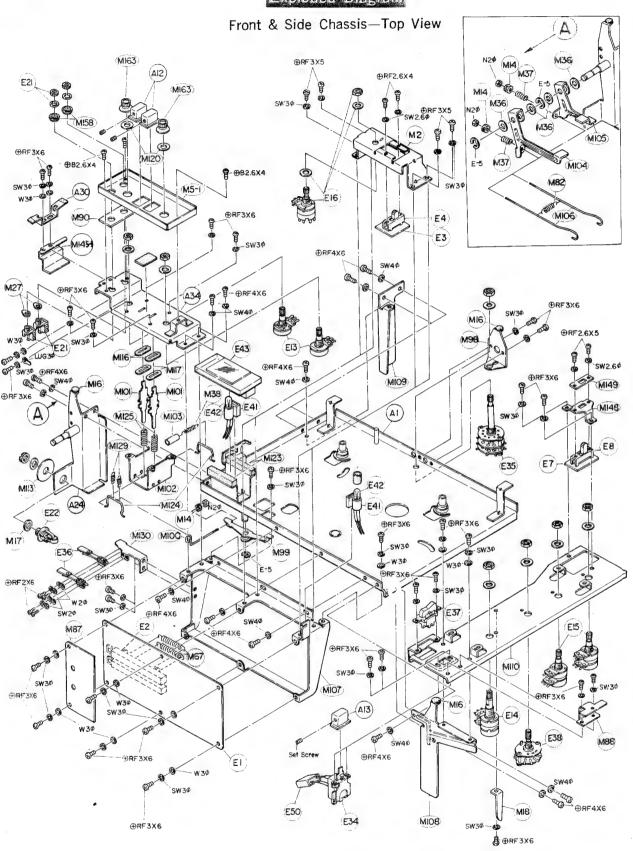


N: Nut - 39 - E: Reta

E: Retaining Ring

LW: Lock Washer

Reference No. which is listed in the Complete Spare Parts List attached hereto.



W: Plain Washer

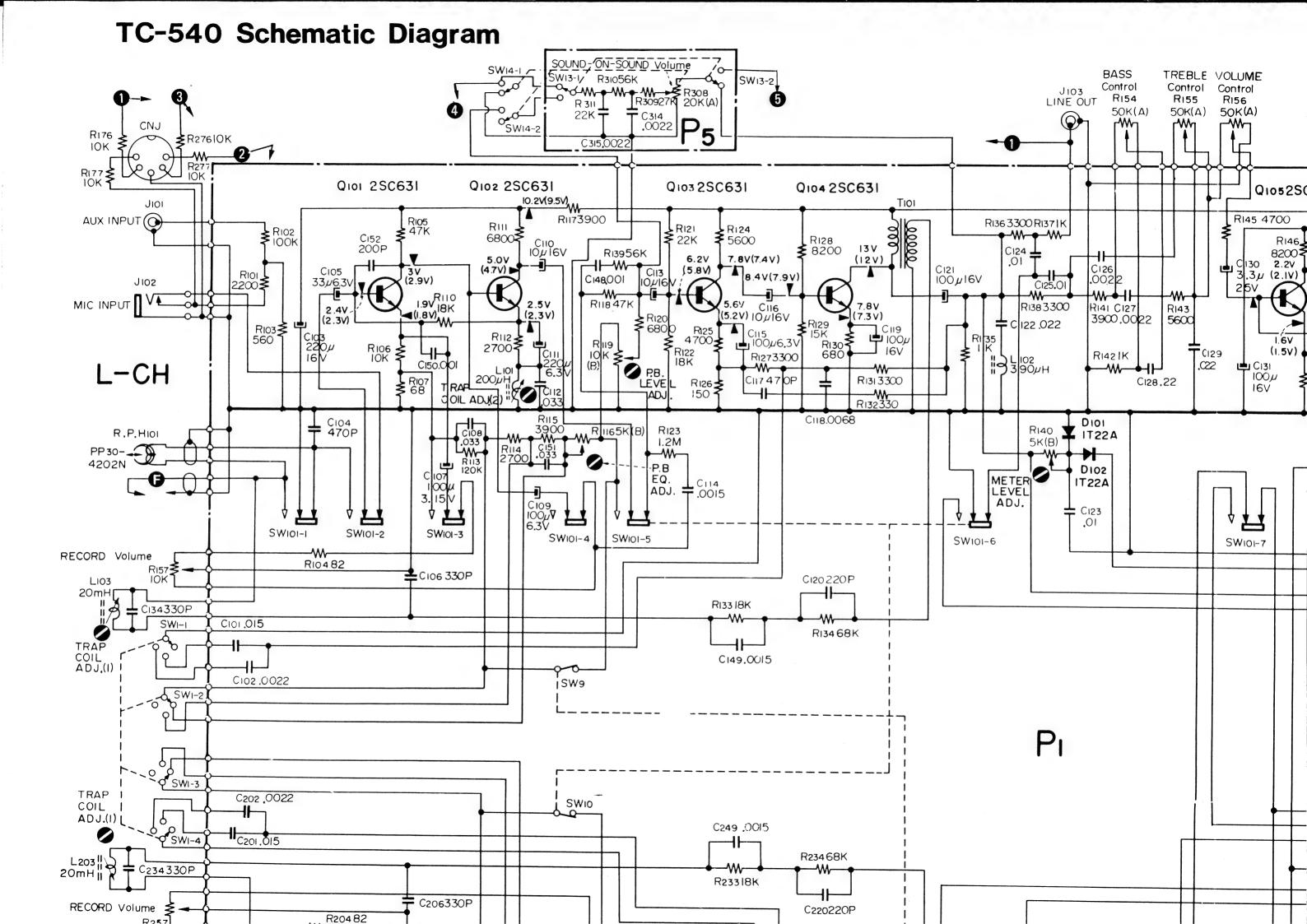
SW: Spring Washer

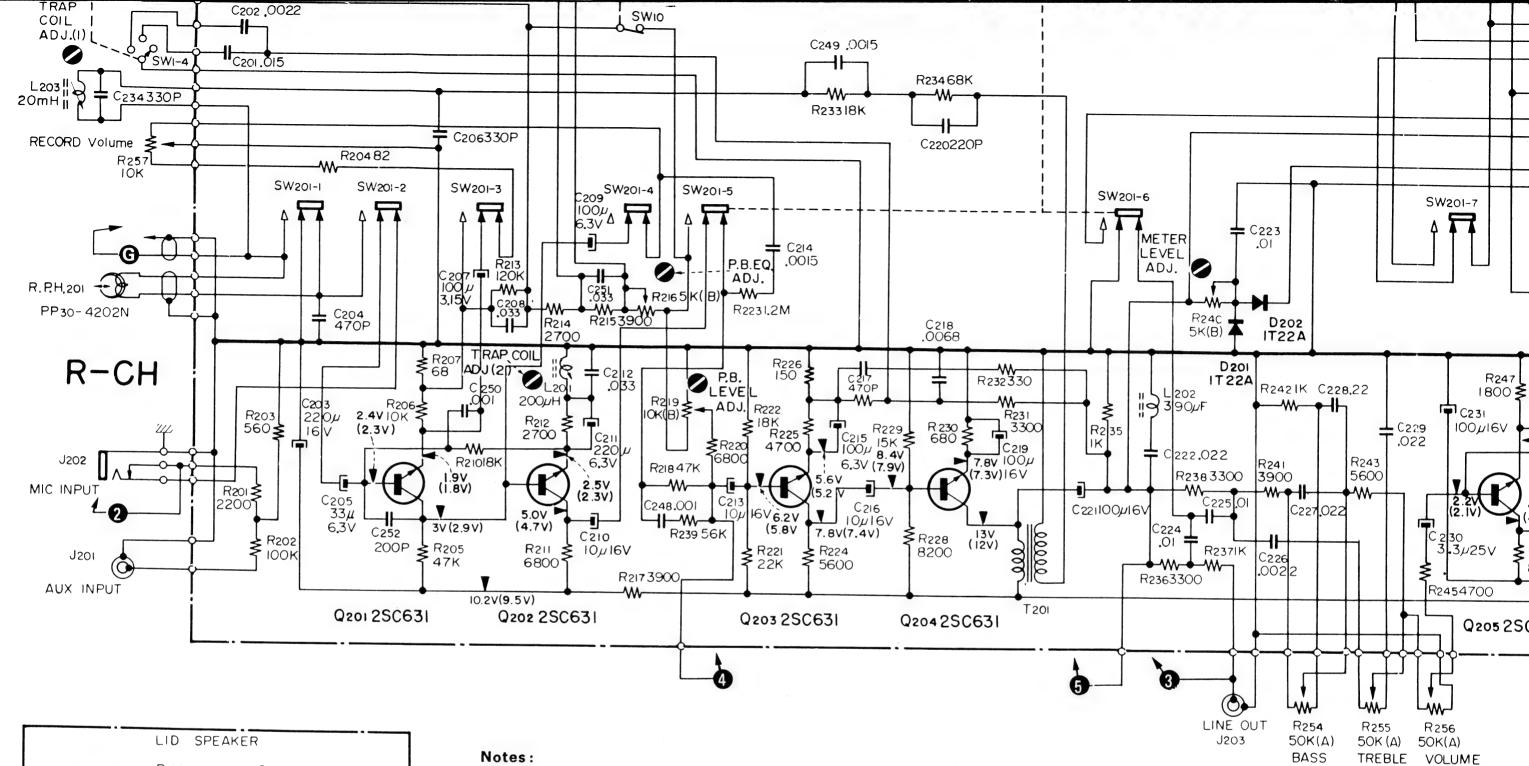
LW: Lock Washer

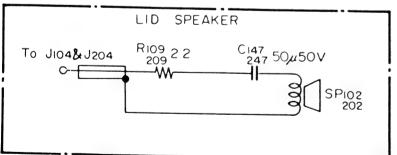
N: Nut

E: Retaining Ring

Number encircled shows
Reference No. which is
listed in the Complete Spare
Parts List attached hereto.







Notes:

1. Switch Positions shown this diagram are as per the table below.

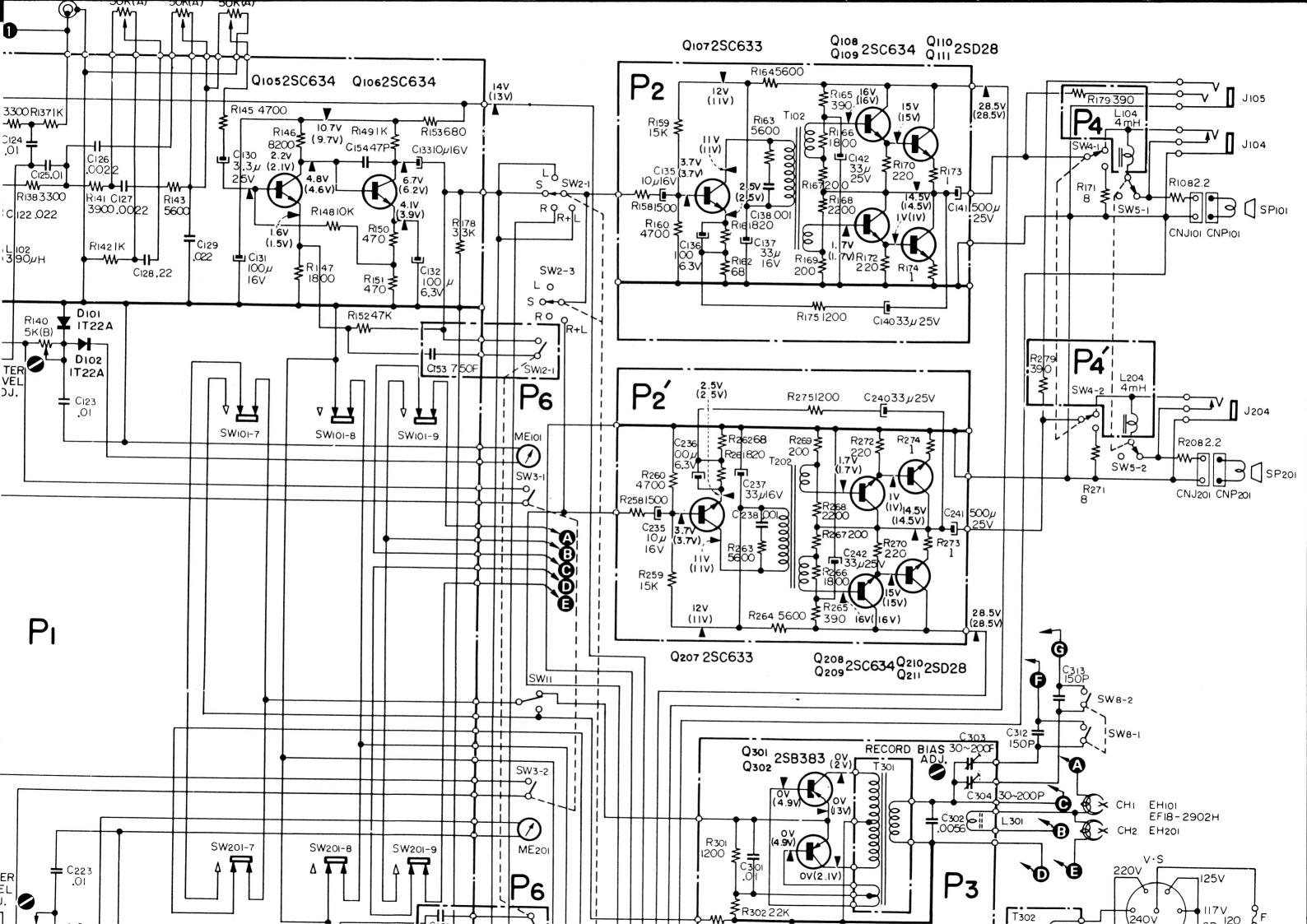
Switch No.	Description	Position
SW ₁₀₁ , 120 SW ₁ SW ₂ SW ₃ SW ₄ SW ₅ SW ₆	Record/Playback Switch Equalizer Switch Speaker Mode Switch Muting Switch Speaker ON/OFF Switch EXT-LID Speaker Change Switch Automatic SHUT-OFF Switch	Record 7½ ips (19 cm/s) Stereo OFF ON ON OFF

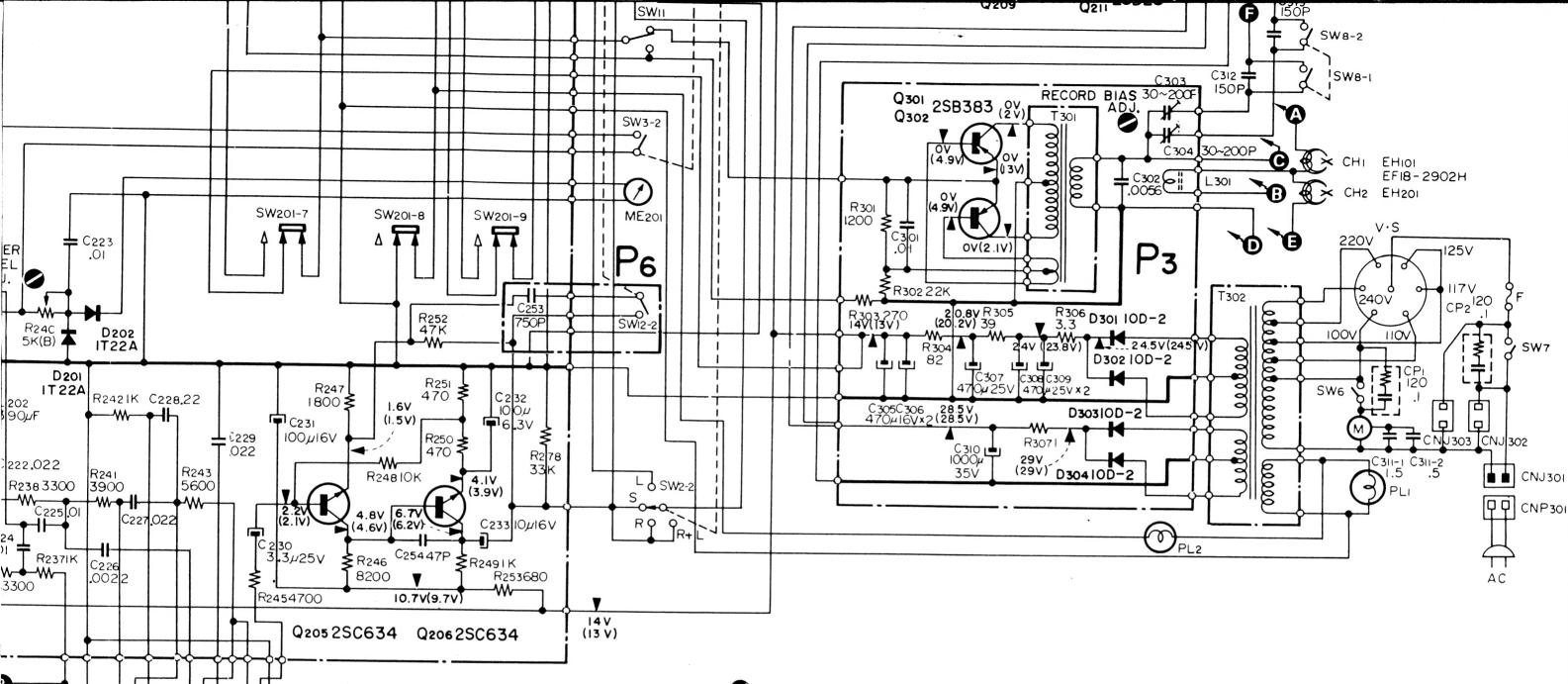
Switch No.	Description	
SW ₇ SW ₈ SW ₉ , 10 SW ₁₁ SW ₁₂ SW ₁₃ SW ₁₄	Power ON/OFF Switch Bias Control Switch Monaural Record Switch Bias ON/OFF Switch Noise Suppressor ON/OFF Switch SOUND-ON-SOUND Channel Selector Switch SOUND-ON-SOUND Defeat Switch	OFF OFF OFF OFF

Control

Control

Control





Description	Position
ver ON/OFF Switch	OFF
s Control Switch	OFF (13/6 ips, 4,8 cm/s)
	ON (3¾ ips, 9.5 cm/s) & (7½ ips, 19 cm/s)
naural Record Switch	ON
s ON/OFF Switch	FORWARD
se Suppressor ON/OFF Switch	OFF
JND-ON-SOUND Channel Selector Switch	L-CH-R-CH
JND-ON-SOUND Defeat Switch	OFF

LINE OUT

J203

R254

50K(A)

BASS

Control

R255

50K (A)

TREBLE

Contrd

R256

50K(A)

VOLUME

Control

- 2. Adjustable
- 3. iii : Grounding to chassis
- 4. All resistors and capacitors are in ohm and μF , unless otherwise specified.
- 5. The letter (A) or (B) suffixed to rating value of potentiometer indicates its characteristic.
- 6. All the voltage values shown in color are DC unless otherwise noted and measured in PLAYBACK mode with no signal input by using VTVM.

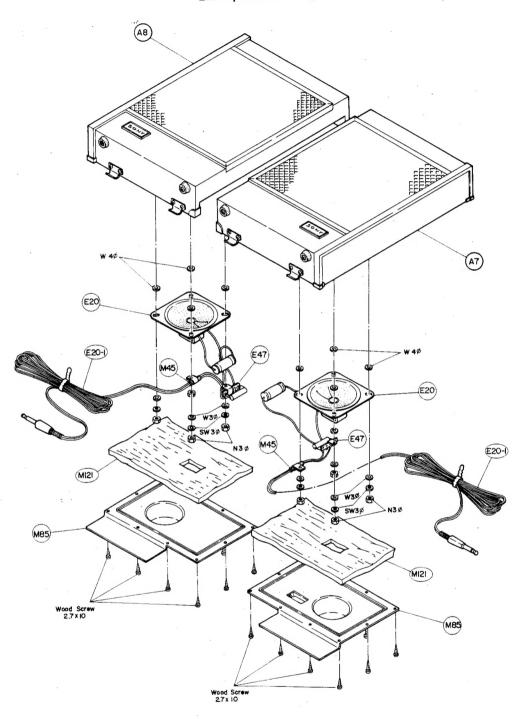
Voltage values in RECORD mode enclosed in parentheses.

Variation may be noted because of normal production tolerance.

- 7. P₁: Pre-Amplifier Circuit Board.
 - P2: Power Amplifier Circuit Board.
 - P₃: Power Supply & Bias OSC Circuit Board.
 - P4: Speaker Circuit Board.
 - P₅: SOUND-ON-SOUND Circuit Board.
 - P6: Noise Suppressor Switch Circuit Board.

Printed in Japan

Lid Speakers—Top View



W: Plain Washer

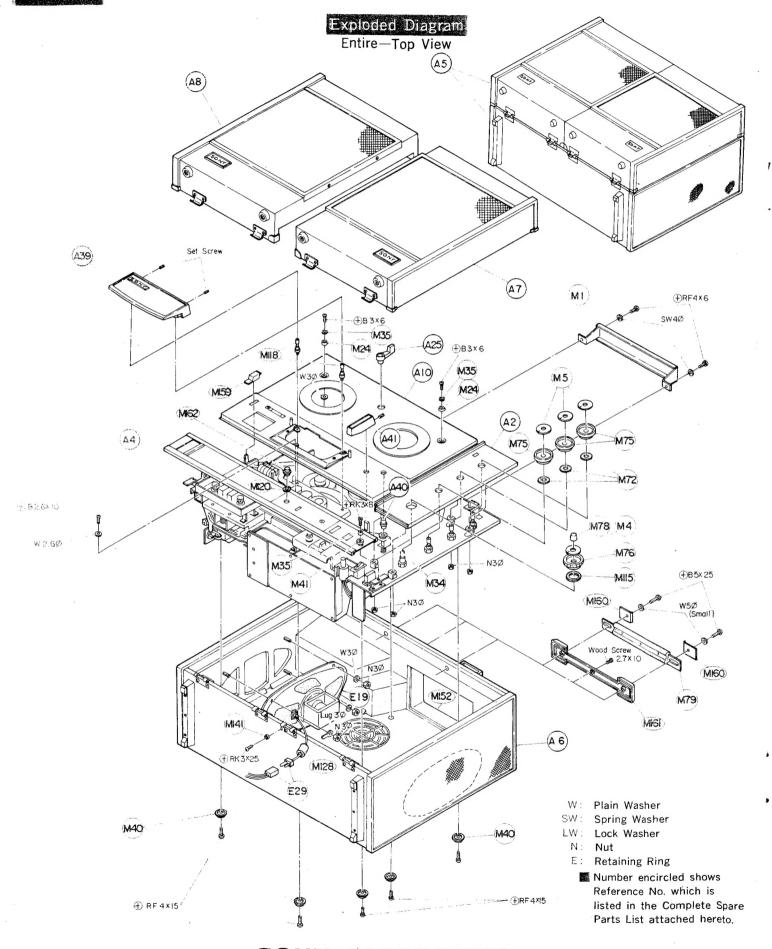
SW: Spring Washer

LW: Lock Washer

N: Nut

E: Retaining Ring

Number encircled shows
Reference No. which is
listed in the Complete Spare
Parts List attached hereto.



SONY CORPORATIO